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Agenda item 99

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Elvina **Jusufaj** (Albania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

"(a) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

"(b) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

"(c) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

"(d) Report of the Disarmament Commission"

was included in the provisional agenda of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 38/183 O of 20 December 1983, 39/148 H of 17 December 1984 and 59/104 and 59/105 of 3 December 2004.

2. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2005, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2005, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 85 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 7th meetings, from 3 to 7 October (see A/C.1/60/PV.2-7). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 8th to 17th meetings, from 10 to 14 and from 17 to 21 October (see A/C.1/60/PV.8-17). Action on all draft

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resolutions was taken at the 18th to 23rd meetings, from 24 to 26 and on 28 and 31 October and 1 November (see A/C.1/60/PV.18-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;[1]

(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission for 2005;[2]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/60/285);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/60/135).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/60/L.2

5. At the 15th meeting, on 19 October, the representative of France, on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research" (A/C.1/60/L.2). Subsequently, Argentina, Austria, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iceland, Latvia, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, Sierra Leone, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 19th meeting, on 25 October, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/60/L.2, provided by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/60/L.2 without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/60/L.20

8. At the 14th meeting, on 18 October, the representative of Peru introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/60/L.20). Subsequently, Bangladesh joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/60/27).

[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 42* (A/60/42).

9. At its 18th meeting, on 24 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/60/L.20 without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/60/L.59/Rev.1

10. At the 22nd meeting, on 31 October, the representative of Sierra Leone introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/60/L.59/Rev.1).

11. At its 23rd meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/60/L.59/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution III).[3]

[3] The representative of the United States of America informed the Committee that his delegation would not participate in the consensus.

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

12. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/83 M of 11 December 1979, in which it requested the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the basis of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Reaffirming its resolution 39/148 H of 17 December 1984, in which it approved the statute of the Institute, renewed the invitation to Governments to consider making voluntary contributions to the Institute and requested the Secretary-General to continue to give the Institute administrative and other support,

Recalling its resolution 45/62 G of 4 December 1990 on the tenth anniversary of the Institute and its resolution 55/35 A of 20 November 2000 on the twentieth anniversary of the Institute,

Considering the continuing need for the international community to have access to independent and in-depth research on security issues and prospects for disarmament and non-proliferation,

Underlining the particularly relevant contribution of the Institute to thinking and analysis on international security issues in the current context,

Taking note of the audit report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the Institute, which makes a positive assessment of the impact of the work of the Institute and recommends that the Institute should seek adequate funding from the regular budget to better meet the costs of its core staff and that the Institute, in consultation with its Board of Trustees, should establish specific posts for the core functions of the Institute,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,[2] in which, after considering the audit report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, the Board recommended that the costs of the core staff of the Institute should be funded from the regular budget of the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

2. *Recognizes* the importance, the timeliness and the high quality of the work of the Institute;

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[1] A/34/589.

[2] A/60/285.

3. *Reiterates its conviction* that the Institute should continue to conduct independent research on problems relating to disarmament and security and to undertake specialized research requiring a high degree of expertise;

4. *Appeals* to all Member States to continue to make financial contributions to the Institute in order to ensure its viability and the quality of its work over the long term;

5. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General implement the relevant recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the decisions of the Board of Trustees of the Institute and continue to seek ways to increase the funding of the Institute, within existing resources.

Draft resolution II
Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[1]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

Taking note of active discussions held on the programme of work during the 2005 session of the Conference, as duly reflected in the report and the records of the plenary meetings,

Taking note also of significant contributions made during the 2005 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, as well as of discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2006 session,

Recognizing the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs as expressions of support for the endeavours of the Conference and its role as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Calls upon* the Conference to intensify consultations and explore possibilities with a view to reaching an agreement on a programme of work;

3. *Takes note* of the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2006 session;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, including those submitted as the documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations, as expressed in paragraph 38 of its report;[1]

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of substantive work in its 2006 session;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/60/27).

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

Draft resolution III
Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003 and 59/105 of 3 December 2004,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Bearing in mind its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[1]

2. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

3. *Reaffirms also* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee of the General Assembly, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[3]

5. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Disarmament Commission during its organizational meeting in July 2005 towards achieving its objectives, and recommends that the Commission intensify consultations on those efforts with a view to reaching definitive agreements before the start of its substantive session in 2006;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2006, from 10 to 28 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/60/42).

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

[3] A/CN.10/137.

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[4] together with all the official records of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/60/27).